

Arcanum

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The following is a series of vignettes about individual themes of the 22 cards of the Major Arcana in Tarot. It is written this way to emphasize freedom of interpretation and a more intuitive approach to getting in touch with the spirit of the cards.

There is a lot of superfluous crap written about the Tarot that has no basis in fact, despite the hundreds and thousands of pages written. As for origins the first known deck is in the 15th century CE and there is no evidence for divinatory use of them before the 18th century. It serves some authors and teachers well to perpetuate myths and link concepts, themes and movements in popular culture among other things to the ordinances and form of their particular esoteric school.

Connection to the ancient Egyptian wisdom for example is stemming from a time when Egypt was very much in vogue among occultists. Likewise kabbalistic attributions are from authors who have a vested interest, ironically many could be said to lack genuine teaching about kabbalah also being removed from the source of this tradition.

The arrangement has moved away from the the traditional sequence of 22 or 0 - 21 in the Major Arcana. Those wishing to use the cards as archetypes for meditation & pathworking etc could treat the arabic and roman numeral sets as separate decks or use in parallel reflecting on the juxtaposition illustrated.

The left side is more focused on the individual, the right universal forces.

0	INITIATE	KINGDOM	∞
1	MAGUS	SUN	IX
2	PRIESTESS	MOON	VIII
3	EMPRESS	STAR	VII
4	EMPEROR	FALLEN EMPIRE	VI
5	HIEROPHANT	SHADOW	V
6	LOVERS	DEATH	IV
7	HORSES	BALANCE	III
8	JUDGE	SHAMAN	II
9	SAGE	WARRIOR	I
10	FATE	ENLIGHTENMENT	x

INITIATE

0

Beginning the journey,
not all is as it seems.

Great danger lies ahead,
great rewards also.

For the secret of secrets you must be willing to suffer,
not because this is the toll asked for the journey,
but suffering is the journey.

You will learn new ways,
and rediscover the value in old ones.

KINGDOM

∞

You've made it through to the end it appears,
yet also to a new beginning.

More than you could wish for is within grasp,
along with awareness of it's true value and cost.

If sacrifices weren't made you never would have made it this far,
though to give up what you never really wanted is a reward in itself.

MAGUS

1

Some think they know me
Some think they don't know me
I am what I am

I can fulfill your dreams
or
Bring your nightmares to life

SUN IX

Behold the source of power and light,
limitless,
yet so fragile and finite.

Riches,
joy,
the key to worldly success.

To long under and it shall burn,
leaving you crying for the solace of darkness,
in measure you will receive healing and strength.

The way is clearly shown before you,
open your eyes and see.

PRIESTESS

2

Mystery,
Dark Queen.

Lover and Destroyer,
we bow at your feet
and find you have
no respect for those that kneel.

In your arms
the agony and the ecstasy,
motivation to walk the path
with reminder to stop and enjoy the simple pleasures.

All is as it should be,
while leading us to bring about what is meant to be.

MOON

VIII

Light in the darkness,
showing what lies hidden

shaping, guiding, inspiring.

The things we want to say
but don't know how to express in words.

Watcher perched on a high tower,
guardian,
taking in without interfering.

EMPRESS

3

Mother of us all.

First form of god that any know.

Giver of life,
demanding we give back to continue the cycle.

Beauty and Blessings,
we work to keep you at peace
while providing a place to rest and grow.

STAR

VII

Guiding light,
revealing the way to go.

A glimpse of the things we strive for
and how to attain them.

Bright warrior goddess,
resplendant beauty,
urge us onward
to be strong
and continue the struggle.

EMPEROR

4

Lord of all.
Strong father

watching, teaching, inspiring.

Shaper of empire,
and setter of destiny.

Lead us in battle,
lay out the plans
to establish and maintain peace.

FALLEN EMPIRE

VI

Upon reaching the pinnacle
there is no place left to go but down.

Pride comes before the fall
because many set their sights too high
on goals they will never accomplish.

Know who you are
and what your place is,
keep eyes open
lest you be cut down.

HIEROPHANT

5

Master of ceremonies,
calling to us the divine presence.

Necessary to find in ourselves the capacity,

beware the pompous fool
who believes they stand
between you & G-D.

Listen and learn,
take in wise advice
and let them show you the way,

just be sure
to separate message from messenger.

SHADOW

V

I say the things that you all think,
but none of you wish to vocalize.

I am the catalyst of necessary change.

I am all that you wish you could be,
and all you deny yourself.

LOVERS

6

Look in the mirror,
find your counterpart -
both likeness and opposite.

Make a choice to take what you need
and give where you fulfill the most need.

Come together
freely not by force,

break the opposition
though take care
not to harm each other.

DEATH

IV

Recognise the illusions,

false hopes that truly offer only pain
with no eventual fulfillment of desires.

Move on from the mess,

dive into the fire

like the Phoenix

about to be reborn.

HORSES

7

Opposing forces need to be held together,
controlled,
used to propel you forward.

Harness & redirect
what is not working for you,

turn it into something
that will accomplish your goals.

BALANCE

III

Take a little in,
send a little out.

Hold onto what you need
while allowing it to constantly flow,

unmoving energies
quickly become stagnant.

Cut off circulation,
and soon
the limb must be removed.

JUDGE

8

Justice over law.

Doing what's right
More important than social precedent.

To live beyond reproach,

Understanding circumstances,

Mete out according to creating real change.

Speak how the world can and will be.

SHAMAN

II

Journey within!

Conquer enemies
stronger then on the outside.

Explore the madness,

Embrace it,
Accept it,
Transform it.

Sit still amidst absolute chaos.

Find solitude without drawing away.

SAGE

9

Sit and watch,

Analyze and interpret,

Speaking only when needed.

Advice given out
For the situation at hand.

Words are spared,
Lest they fall on deaf ears.

Better to teach,
Then to assume the title.

WARRIOR

I

Knowing when to fight
and when not to fight,
Requires attention and focus
even during rest and leisure.

Sharpened in battle,

Strengthened in peace.

Unappreciated when not needed.

Overextended when required.

To protect & give support
you may not
have offered to yourself.

FATE

10

Seek & ye shall find.
Knock & the door will be opened.

Predetermined means it cannot be avoided.

Random chaos falls wherever it may.

Whether or not
it can be changed
is always under debate.

How we respond
And being ready,
Is within our own hands to choose.

Play the cards,
Back down,
Bluff,
or exchange.

ENLIGHTENMENT

X

Look in the mirror,
See who you really are.

What always was,
What always will be,

Is based on what you really want,
And the conceptions of what you deserve.

Rewards & punishment
All is not as it seems.

Subconscious desires
Shape nightmares
and dreams.

Old World UnderWorld



<http://czarnibog.netai.net>